

REMARKS

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kingston in view of Japanese Patent 9-114406 (the '406 reference).

Arguments

Contrary to the present invention, Kingston fails to disclose a lower die/mold with a plurality of cooling pipes, and an upper die/mold with a heater. Because Kingston was made in 1947, the production used for optical lens of Kingston is different from the optical element used for LCD of the present invention. Hence, the dies/molds of the Kingston are far smaller than the ones of the present invent. For this reason, it is not obvious for a person having ordinary skill in the art to enlarge upper die/mold and mount a plurality of cooling pipes in it, and to enlarge the lower die/mold and dispose a heater in it.

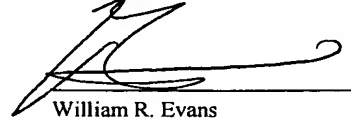
Moreover, each mold of Kingston has a recess on its surface that would make it hard to arrange cooling pipes or heaters inside. Therefore, Kingston teaches away from the heating and cooling addition claimed.

Even though the '406 reference discloses an optical element used for LCD and an upper mold and a lower mold for producing the optical element, the '406 reference states that the acrylic resin plate (7) is pressurized by applying the pressure and time to the extent of averting the occurrence of a brittle fracture within the environment of ordinary temp(see col. 7, lines 29-37). The '406 reference doesn't suggest to change the temperature of the optical element during its producing process. Therefore, the '406 reference is teaching away from the present invention.

The Federal Circuit has indicated that one important indicium of non-obviousness is "teaching away from" the claimed invention by the prior art, and has reversed rejections of claims where it found that prior art references applied by the PTO was, in fact, teaching away from what was being claimed.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that this applicant is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested on reconsideration. Should any points remain in issue, which the Examiner feels could best be resolved by either a personal or a telephone interview, it is urged that Applicant's attorney be contacted as listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'W. Evans', written over a horizontal line.

William R. Evans
c/o Ladas & Parry LLP
26 West 61st Street
New York, New York 10023
Reg. No. 25858
Tel. No. (212) 708-1930